

Ref: RM-10620

As an amateur for 38 years, and holding an Advanced Class license, I agree with ONE PART of this petition. I believe the Advanced Class license tests were more difficult years ago than ARE present day Extra tests, and the Morse Code requirement was certainly more difficult than it is today for Extra Class licensees. And, at our advanced years, most of us don't think there's enough incentive to upgrade. I therefore believe Advanced Class licensees should be grandfathered into Extra Class. With the few extra frequencies that are available to the Extra Class license holders, little would be given to the presently licensed Advance Class License holders of many years experience and public service. It may, however, put a few more amateurs in parts of the bands now facing possible restructuring due to lack of use.

General Class license tests, however, require a higher degree of technical information than the Novice license tests. I believe Novices should have to upgrade for their additional privileges, which are many. I can hardly envision anyone holding a Novice Class license for 20 years. When I started this hobby, I had ONE YEAR to upgrade or shut down the station! Anyone can pass the present-day General Class test if they put forward the effort, and there are MANY new opportunities for them when they gain that goal.